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Knuckles

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KNUCKLES

Devyn Springer

I remember the first time he hit me—

It was his ruby red lips

Against the pumping veins

Underneath my warm neck,

Sloppy and pulsing with innocence.

And then the next time

It was much more of a hit.

(His Knuckles carved his name into my ribs

And his hands told my heart

That they owned me).

His words dripped poison onto my spine

And it crippled me into believing

I deserved all that he had to give me,

And I made the mistake of thinking his Knuckles

Were the gods I deserved to worship.